

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Upon entry of this amendment, which amends claims 1, 10, 13, and 17, and adds new claims 20-52, claims 1-52 will be pending. In the Office Action, claim 17 was objected to because of informalities; claims 1, 9-10, and 13-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Vuong et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,762,552, hereinafter "Vuong"); and claims 2-8, 11-12, and 15-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vuong in view of Moody et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,976,016, hereinafter "Moody"). Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the claims in view of the amendments above and the remarks below.

Examiner Interview

Applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesy of the Interview on August 19, 2003. During the Interview, the claims and cited references were discussed. Applicants argued that Vuong and Moody do not disclose or suggest every element of claims 1-19.

Amendments to the Specification

Applicants have amended the specification to summarize the language of the original claims. Applicants submit that no new matter has been added.

Formal Matters

Claim 17 was objected to because of the informality regarding the phrase "the pay table calculator calculates the composite pay table is calculated". In response, applicants have amended claim 17 to delete the phrase "is calculated". Applicant thus requests withdrawal of the objection.

Claims 1-9, and 41-44

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Vuong. Applicants submit that Vuong does not disclose or suggest every element of claim 1, as

amended. For example, Vuong does not disclose or suggest "a game controller in communication with said user-actuatable input means, said game controller substantially simultaneously initiating play and substantially simultaneously continuing play of multiple ones of said plurality of games in response of user activation thereof."

Vuong discloses a gaming machine that is capable of providing a player with the option to play more than one game of chance. *See Vuong*, col. 4, lines 19-21. In Vuong, when more than one game of chance is played, a player selects a wager to be placed on a first game. The player then switches to a second game and places wagers on the second game before switching back to the first game to determine the results of the previous play of the first game of chance. *See Vuong*, col. 4, lines 23-29. Accordingly, Vuong discloses that wagers on the first game are placed and the first game is played while wagers are placed on a second game. After the wagers on the second game are placed, the user may switch back to the first game to determine the results. Thus, the first game was initiated before wagers were placed on the second game and before the second game was initiated. Accordingly, Vuong does not disclose or suggest substantially simultaneously initiating play and substantially simultaneously continuing play of multiple ones of said plurality of games.

Claims 2-9 and 41-44 depend from claim 1 and thus derive patentability at least therefrom. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections of claims 2-9 and 41-44. Claims 2-9 and 41-44 also recite additional novel and non-obvious features. For example, claim 41 recites that "the play of the multiple ones of said plurality of games is self-contained in the gaming apparatus."

Claims 10-12 and 45-48

Claim 10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Vuong. Applicants submit that Vuong does not disclose or suggest every element of claim 10, as amended. For example, Vuong does not disclose or suggest "substantially simultaneously initiating play and concurrently playing said first and said additional games." Accordingly, applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Claims 11-12 and 45-48 depend from claim 10 and thus derive patentability at least therefrom. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections of claims 11-12. Claims 10-12 and claims 45-48 also recite additional novel and non-obvious features. For example, claim 45 recites that "playing the first and said additional games is self-contained in the electronic gaming device."

Claims 13-19 and 49-52

Claim 13 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Vuong. Applicants submit that Vuong does not disclose or suggest every element of claim 13, as amended. For example, Vuong does not disclose or suggest "substantially simultaneously initiating play of the selected two or more electronic games." Accordingly, applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claim 13.

Claims 14-19 and 49-52 depend from claim 13 and thus derive patentability at least therefrom. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections of claims 14-19. Claims 14-19 and 49-52 also recite additional novel and non-obvious features. For example, claim 49 recites that "play of the two or more electronic games is self-contained in the electronic gaming device."

New Claims 20-52

Applicants submit that the cited references do not disclose or suggest every element of new claims 20-52. For example, in claim 20, the cited references do not disclose or suggest "a game controller configured to substantially simultaneously start game play of the selected first and second game in response to a single user input, wherein the game play of the first and second game is controlled by the game controller and is self-contained in the gaming device."

Additionally, in claim 31, the cited references do not disclose or suggest:

receiving a wager for the first game before initiation of play for the first and the second game;

receiving a wager for the second game before initiation of play for the first and the second game;

receiving a single user input to initiate game play;

substantially simultaneously initiating play and continuing game play for the first and the second games; and displaying a result for the first and the second games.

Accordingly, applicants respectfully request a notice of allowance for new claims 20-52.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is urged.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian N. Young
Reg. No. 48,602

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 415-576-0200
Fax: 415-576-0300
BNY:lyk
11469732 v1